

determining if data associated with the target is available; and  
assigning a first priority level for ownership of the PCI bus to the master based on availability of the data.

2. (Amended) The method of Claim 1, further comprising assigning the master a MEDIUM priority level after the master requests a target.

3. (Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein assigning a first priority level for ownership of the PCI bus to the master based on availability of the data comprises assigning a LOW priority level to the master if the data is not available.

4. (Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein assigning a first priority level for ownership of the PCI bus to the master based on availability of the data comprises assigning a HIGH priority level to the master if the data is available.

5. The method of Claim 1, wherein the target uses delayed transactions to complete a read access.

6. The method of Claim 5, wherein the target integrates a buffer management scheme.

7. The method of Claim 6, wherein the buffer management scheme includes an input/output cache.

8. The method of Claim 1, wherein identifying a target includes sending a request signal from the master to an arbiter.

9. The method of Claim 8, wherein assigning a priority includes sending a modified request signal to the arbiter.